

REMARKS

Continued examination and allowance of the present application is respectfully requested in view of the present submission filed with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE).

In the present application, claims 1 and 8-13 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 8-12 have been amended and claim 13 has been added to provide additional clarity. Claims 2-7 were previously canceled. Claims 1 and 8 are independent claims.

Support for the amendment of features of claims 1 and 8 may be found in U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2008-0285947 corresponding to the presently filed application. For example, program codes for playback apparatus may be found at least in [0120-0121, 0151-0152], time information for playback timing in [0011, 0155, 0356], designating graphics images corresponding rendition time in [0201, 0205-0206, 0216], storage in [0207-0208], playback timing in [0154-0156], native codes in [0188-0189], superimposing graphics image in [0010, 0156, 0168], native code converting in [0195-0196, 0224], processing of rendition time in [0167, 0208-0210, 0234-0235]. Support for the amendment of claim 13 may be found at least in [0128-0129, 0142-0143] recording graphics image to file, of corresponding Patent Application Publication No. 2008-0285947. No prohibited new matter is added.

Rejection of claims 1 and 8-12 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

The Office Action rejected claims 1 and 8-12 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Jung et al., U.S. Patent No. 7,401,100 (herein “JUNG”), in view of Angiulo et al., U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002-0135621 (herein “ANGIULO”), further in view of Uhler et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,845,075 (herein “UHLER”), and further in view of

Kikuchi et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,870,523 (herein “KIKUCHI”). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Amended independent claim 1 recites, “A playback apparatus for playing a video stream recorded on a recording medium, the recording medium including a computer program that includes program codes to be executed during playback of the video stream, the video stream including time information for indicating playback timing of a video of the video stream, and the computer program including predetermined program codes for designating a plurality of graphics images and a rendition time corresponding to each of the plurality of graphics images, the playback apparatus comprising a storage; a player that successively plays the video according to the playback timing indicated by the time information; an image plane; a platform including a processor that executes native codes, the platform interprets and executes the program codes included in the computer program by converting the program codes into native codes executable by the processor and causing the processor to execute the native codes; and a compositor that superimposes a graphics image stored in the image plane on the video during the playback of the video stream, wherein the platform interprets the predetermined program codes included in the computer program by converting the predetermined program codes into native codes for storing, into the storage, the graphics images and the rendition time corresponding to each of the graphics images, and causes the processor to execute the native codes converted from the predetermined program codes, and if the platform receives control information that includes the time information corresponding to the video played back by the player and the time information is predetermined time information, the platform causes the processor to execute an image selecting native code for selecting, from among graphics images stored in the storage, a selected graphics

image to be rendered at a timing indicated by the predetermined time information and for storing the selected graphics image into the image plane.”

The Office Action appears to assert on Pages 2-3 that JUNG discloses “the computer program including predetermined program codes for designating a plurality of graphics images and a rendition time corresponding to each of the plurality of graphics images”, as recited in Applicants’ claim 1, in the form of “VOBU corresponding to each of the plurality of images (column 4, lines 49-51; column 5, lines 45-49; column 6, lines 63-65; column 6, lines 56-63)”. Applicants respectfully disagree.

JUNG states at col. 1 lines 32-42, “According to related arts, by using an Extensible Markup Language (XML) such as the Synchronized Multimedia Integration Language (SMIL) and time attributes, the starting and ending points and the duration of time of reproduction of multimedia elements included in a browser can be handled as tags and attributes. However, a technique of controlling navigation by synchronizing reproduced contents is not available. Also, to control each element for the purpose of implementing such synchronization, numerous tags and attributes are needed, thereby complicating markup document production.” (Emphasis added). Thus, JUNG discloses that its solution is to synchronize the navigation of AV contents and the navigation of multimedia elements.

JUNG discloses that such synchronization of navigations is done through metatags, see Fig. 3 and col. 6, lines 47-55, “The manufacturer uses a <meta> tag to indicate that the multimedia elements included in the markup document need to be synchronized with the DVD contents. Also, the manufacturer defines a “name” attribute of the <meta> tag as “synchronization_id” and a “content” attribute of the <meta> tag as “2”. Thus, it can be seen that

the flash animation files included by an <object> tag having an attribute “id=2” need to be synchronized with the DVD contents after interpreting the markup document.”

Additionally, JUNG states in column 6, lines 56-60, “because the DVD contents can be reproduced in the form of video object unit (VOBU), the multimedia elements such as audio files and animation files that are reproduced in synchronization with the DVD contents may additionally need time table information in the form of VOBU. JUNG’s VOBU time tables are different for each content, and the specific timing depends on user navigation events.

JUNG also discloses in col. 8 lines 38-50 that individual navigation events still occur through user input or user selection, that “predetermined corresponding APIs are transmitted to all of reproducing engines and plug-in players that reproduce multimedia elements. However, as mentioned above, because the browser already knows which multimedia elements are synchronized with the AV contents through the information about synchronization with the AV contents, which is included in the markup document, the APIs are not transmitted to the multimedia elements that do not need to be synchronized with the AV contents. Thus, the AV contents and the multimedia elements that need to be synchronized with the AV contents are controlled in the same way in response to a user's navigation event.” (Emphasis added). That is, JUNG’s disclosed synchronization is done through metatags, when the user selects a navigation event.

To summarize, JUNG merely discloses synchronizing navigation between the AV contents and the multimedia elements, which is triggered by an event corresponding to the navigation from the user, individually transmitting APIs to each respective rendering engine for the different contents, and then rendering and playback of the AV contents is performed

separately, in separate rendering engines, from rendering and playback of the multimedia elements.

Therefore, JUNG generally discloses using metatags to transmit user navigation events in the form of API's to initiate playback of Audio/video contents and multimedia contents. See JUNG Fig. 3 and column 8, lines 38-50. That is, the synchronization occurs according to user navigation event or user selection event in the browser. JUNG's metatags and API's, as alleged program codes, only disclose independent and separate playbacks of different contents triggered upon a user navigation or user selection, and do not disclose any selection of images. Therefore, JUNG does not disclose or render obvious at least, “if the platform receives control information that includes the time information corresponding to the video played back by the player and the time information is predetermined time information, the platform causes the processor to execute an image selecting native code for selecting, from among graphics images stored in the storage, a selected graphics image to be rendered at a timing indicated by the predetermined time information and for storing the selected graphics image into the image plane,” as recited in claim 1. (Emphasis added).

The Office Action asserts on Page 2 that JUNG discloses at column 4, lines 49 to 51, column 5, lines 45 to 49, column 6, lines 63 to 65, and column 6, lines 56 to 63, that “the computer program includes predetermined program codes for designating a plurality of images and time information in the form of VOBU corresponding to each of the plurality of images”. However, the relevant portion of JUNG merely state that VOBU contains time information, but JUNG does not disclose that the VOBU time information is used in the documents, such as the HTML markup document in Fig. 3, “for designating a plurality of graphics images and a rendition time corresponding to each of the plurality of

graphics images.” Thus, JUNG does not disclose or render obvious at least “the computer program including predetermined program codes for designating a plurality of graphics images and a rendition time corresponding to each of the plurality of graphics images”, as recited in claim 1.

Claim 1 further recites, “a compositor that superimposes a graphics image stored in the image plane on the video during the playback of the video stream.” The Office Action asserts on Page 3 that JUNG discloses this feature in column 4, lines 51-55. The relevant portion of JUNG states, “AV images (generally DVD images) that are implemented by the AV contents, browsers that are implemented by the interactive contents, and the multimedia elements are mixed and then displayed on a single screen of a display device.” However, JUNG’s “mixing” of images does not disclose or render obvious at least the “superimposing” recited in claim 1. Therefore, JUNG does not disclose or render obvious at least “a compositor that superimposes a graphics image stored in the image plane on the video during the playback of the video stream,” as recited in claim 1.

Applicants respectfully submit that ANGIULO, UHLER and KIKUCHI do not cure the above noted deficiencies of JUNG.

For example, the Office Action concedes on Pages 3-4 that JUNG does not disclose the features of native codes execution and native code conversion, but asserts that ANGIULO discloses “a platform including an image selecting native code, executable by a processor without conversion (p. 55; claim 18 – instructions stored on a memory medium, executed by a computer).” However, ANGIULO’s image selecting native code does not disclose or render obvious “selecting, from among graphics images stored in the storage, a selected graphics image

to be rendered at a timing indicated by the predetermined time information and for storing the selected graphics image into the image plane,” as recited in claim 1.

UHLER generally discloses interpreting browser commands, and thus also does not cure the above noted deficiencies of JUNG. KIKUCHI generally discloses VOBU time tables for individual video content playback, and thus does not cure the above noted deficiencies of JUNG.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the combination of JUNG, ANGIULO, UHLER and KIKUCHI set forth in the Office Action fails to render obvious the combination of features recited in pending claim 1.

Independent claim 8 recites combination of features that are analogous to the features of claim 1, as well as additional combination of features. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claim 8 is also allowable for at least the same reasons stated above for claim 1, as well for the additional combination of features that claim 8 recites.

Claims 9-10 depend from claim 1, and claims 11-12 depend from claim 8. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claims 9-12 are also allowable for at least the same reasons stated above for claims 1 and 8, as well for the additional combination of features that claims 9-12 recite.

Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1 and 8-12 is respectfully requested.

New Claim 13

Claim 13 has been added. Claim 13 depends from independent claim 1. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that Claim 13 is also allowable for at least the same reasons stated above for claim 1, as well as for the additional combination of features that claim 13 recites.

CONCLUSION

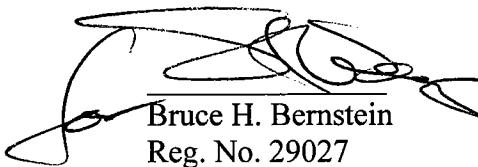
It is believed that for at least all of the foregoing reasons, all of the claims in this application are in condition for allowance, wherefore an early issuance of the Notices of Allowance and Allowability is respectfully solicited.

Applicant notes that this amendment is being made to advance prosecution of the application to allowance, and with respect to the amended claimed features argued as deficient in the prior art, should not be considered as surrendering equivalents of the territory between the claims prior to the present amendment and the amended claims. Further, no acquiescence as to the propriety of the Examiner's rejection is made by the present amendment. All other amendments to the claims which have been made in this amendment, and which have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection based upon the prior art, should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

If any issues yet remain which can be resolved by a telephone conference, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below.

Respectfully Submitted,

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